Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: Government had ample information in their possession from the returns and reports received from the High Court that their work was not satisfactory.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know whether any specific charges have been levelled against the judges?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: The specific charge was that they have not been doing satisfactory work.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know whether explanations were called for from the judges?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know whether Government thought it fit to draw up a proceedings before they were punished?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: No, Sir.

Mr. K. R. Elankath (*Kalkulam and Vilavankod* cum *Neyyattinkara*): May I know whether the judges were found fault with in regard to the number of disposals or the quality of work?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: The only reply that I can give is that their work was unsatisfactory.

Number of High Court Judges.

26. ***Mr. N. V. Chacko:** Will the Government be pleased to state the number of High Court Judges who are in active service as High Court Judges?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: Five.

Customs duty on pepper and ginger.

27. ***Mr. N. V. Chacko:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the rate of customs duty on (i) pepper and (ii) ginger;

(*b*) when these rates were fixed;

(*c*) what the prevailing prices of (i) pepper and (ii) ginger were when the existing rates of customs duty were fixed;

(*d*) what the prices of (i) pepper and (ii) ginger prevailing at present are;

(*e*) the previous rates of customs duty on (i) pepper and (ii) ginger;

(*f*) when these previous rates of customs duty on (i) pepper and (ii) ginger were fixed? and

(*g*) what the prices of (i) pepper and (ii) ginger were when the previous rates of customs duty were fixed?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar: (*a*) (i) Bh. Rs. 10 per candy.

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(ii) 5 per cent. on a tariff value of Bh. Rs. 25 per cwt.

(*b*) (i) 1st Dhanu 1101.
(ii) 5th Karkatakam 1106.

(*c*) (i) Bh. Rs. 50 per cwt.
(ii) Bh. Rs. 10 per cwt.

(*d*) (i) Bh. Rs. 15 per cwt.
(ii) Bh. Rs. 17 per cwt.

(*e*) (i) Bh. Rs. 5 per candy.
(ii) 5 per cent. on a tariff value of Bh. Rs. 37 1/2 per cwt.

(*f*) (i) Bh. Rs. 5 per candy was the rate of duty from the earliest time for which records are available.
(ii) 15th Thulam 1099.

(*g*) (i) Information is not available.
(ii) Bh. Rs. 45 to 50 per cwt.

Mr. N. V. Chacko: May I know how many cwts. make one candy ?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar: 20 cwts. make one ton.

Mr. N. V. Chacko: May I know how many cwts. according to this calculation make one candy?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar: 500/112 cwts.

Mr. N. V. Chacko: Seeing that the price of pepper fell from Rs. 50 to Rs. 15 and the duty was raised from Rs. 5 to 10, may I know whether Government will consider the question of reducing the customs duty ?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar: It is a question of future policy.

Import of paddy into the State.

28. ***Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar** (*Parur, Kunnatnad and Muvattupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the amount of paddy and rice imported into Travancore in each of the years 1110 to 1112, showing also the places from which they are imported and the quantity imported from each place ?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar:

A*statement is laid on the table.

Rice and paddy are imported into Travancore chiefly from Siam, Burma and British India. Information regarding the quantity of rice and paddy imported from each place is not available.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: May I know whether Government have found out any means of preventing the further import of paddy and rice into Travancore ?

* *Vide* Appendix I—Page 222.

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